EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028

PROGRAMME AGREEMENT

between

The Financial Mechanism Committee
established by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway

and

The Estonian State Shared Service Centre (SSSC),
hereinafter referred to as the "National Focal Point",

representing Estonia,
hereinafter referred to as the "Beneficiary State"

together hereinafter referred to as the "Parties"

for the financing of the Programme "Public Health"
hereinafter referred to as the "Programme"

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Chapter 1
Scope, legal framework, and definitions

Article 1.1
Scope

This Programme Agreement between the Financial Mechanism Committee (hereinafter referred to as the FMC) and the National Focal Point lays down the rights and obligations of the Parties regarding the implementation of the Programme and the financial contribution from the EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028 to the Programme.

Article 1.2
Legal Framework

1. This Programme Agreement shall be read in conjunction with the following documents which, together with this Programme Agreement, constitute the legal framework of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028:

a) Protocol 38d to the EEA Agreement on the EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028;

b) the Regulation on the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028 (hereinafter referred to as the "Regulation");

c) the Memorandum of Understanding on the Implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028, entered into between the Donor States and the Beneficiary State; and

d) any guidelines adopted by the FMC in accordance with the Regulation.

2. In case of an inconsistency between this Programme Agreement and the Regulation, the Regulation shall prevail.

3. The legal framework is binding for the Parties. An act or omission by a Party to this Programme Agreement that is incompatible with the legal framework constitutes a breach of this Programme Agreement by that Party.

Article 1.3
Definitions

Terms used and institutions and documents referred to in this Programme Agreement shall be understood in accordance with the Regulation, in particular Article 1.6 thereof, and the legal framework referred to in Article 1.2 of this Programme Agreement.

Article 1.4
Annexes and hierarchy of documents

1. Annexes attached hereto form an integral part of this Programme Agreement. Any reference to this Programme Agreement includes a reference to its annexes unless otherwise stated or clear from the context.

2. The provisions of the annexes shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with this Programme Agreement. Should the meaning of any provision of the said annexes, so interpreted, remain inconsistent with this Programme Agreement, the provisions of the annexes shall prevail, provided that these provisions are compatible with the Regulation.

3. Commitments, statements and guarantees, explicit as well as implicit, made in the preparation of the programme are binding for the National Focal Point and the Programme Operator unless otherwise explicitly stipulated in this Programme Agreement.

Chapter 2
The Programme

Article
2.1 Co-operation

1. The Parties shall take all appropriate and necessary measures to ensure fulfilment of the obligations and objectives arising out of this Programme Agreement.

2. The Parties agree to provide all information necessary for the good functioning of this Programme Agreement, including risk assessment and response analysis, and to apply the principles of implementation as set out in the Regulation.

3. The Parties shall promptly inform each other of any circumstances that interfere or threaten to interfere with the successful implementation of the Programme.

4. In executing this Programme Agreement the Parties declare to counteract corrupt practices. Further, they declare not to accept, either directly or indirectly, any kind of offer, gift, payments or benefits which would or could be construed as illegal or corrupt practice or giving rise to a conflict of interest. The Parties shall immediately inform each other of any indication of corruption or misuse of resources related to this Programme Agreement.

Article 2.2
Main responsibilities of the Parties

1. The National Focal Point is responsible and accountable for the overall management of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028 in the Beneficiary State and for the full and correct implementation of this Programme Agreement. In particular, the National Focal Point undertakes to:

a) comply with its obligations stipulated in the Regulation and this Programme Agreement;

b) ensure that the Certifying Authority, the Audit Authority and the Programme Operator properly perform the tasks assigned to them in the Regulation and this Programme Agreement;

c) take all necessary steps to ensure that the Programme Operator is fully committed and able to implement and manage the Programme, including ensuring the appropriate allocation of staff and other resources, throughout the programme period;

d) take the necessary measures to remedy irregularities in the implementation of the Programme and ensure that the Programme Operator takes appropriate measures to remedy irregularities in projects within the Programme, including measures to recover misspent funds; and

e) make all the necessary and appropriate arrangements in order to strengthen or change the way the Programme is managed.

2. The FMC shall, subject to the rules stipulated in the legal framework referred to in Article 1.2 of this Programme Agreement, make available to the Beneficiary State a financial contribution (hereinafter referred to as "the programme grant") to be used exclusively to finance the eligible cost of the Programme.

Article 2.3
Objective(s) of the Programme

1. This Programme Agreement sets out the objective(s), outcome(s), outputs, indicators and targets for the Programme.

2. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator implements and completes the Programme in accordance with the objective(s), outcome(s), outputs, indicators and targets set for the Programme.

Article 2.4
Programme grant

1. The maximum amount of the programme grant, the programme grant rate, and the estimated eligible cost of the Programme shall be as specified in this Programme Agreement.

2. The programme budget annexed to this Programme Agreement shall:

a) contain a breakdown between the Programme's budget headings; and

b) indicate the agreed advance payment, if any.

3. The management cost of the Programme Operator shall not exceed the amount specified in this Programme Agreement.

Article 2.5
Special conditions and programme specific rules

1. This Programme Agreement shall list any conditions set by the FMC with reference to Article 6.3.2 of the Regulation. The National Focal Point shall ensure compliance with these conditions and take the necessary steps to ensure their fulfilment.

2. The National Focal Point shall ensure compliance with any other programme specific rules laid down in this Programme Agreement.

Article 2.6
Reporting

The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator provides financial reports and a Final Programme Report in accordance with Chapter 9 and Article 6.8 of the Regulation as well as other reporting in accordance with guidelines adopted by the FMC.

Article 2.7
Monitoring and audits

The monitoring and audits referred to in Chapter 10 and Chapter 11 of the Regulation shall not in any way relieve the National Focal Point or the Programme Operator of their obligations under the legal framework regarding monitoring of the Programme and/or its projects, financial control and audit.

Article 2.8
Modification of the Programme

1. Unless otherwise explicitly stipulated in this Programme Agreement, any modification of the Programme is subject to prior approval by the FMC.

2. Budget reallocations to and from calls and pre-defined projects (both within the same outcome and between outcomes) are permitted without a modification of the Programme Agreement or prior approval by the FMC for an amount of up to 10% of the total allocation for each planned call or pre-defined project.

3. Changes to the Programme which have been agreed in their entirety through a modification of the relevant Memorandum of Understanding do not require a modification of the Programme Agreement. In such cases, the Programme Agreement shall be updated by the FMC.

4. Programme specific exceptions from paragraph 1, if any, are set in the annexes to this Programme Agreement.

5. Expenditures in breach of this Article are not eligible.

6. Should there be a doubt as to whether a modification of the Programme Agreement is

required, the National Focal Point shall consult the FMC before such modifications take effect.

7. Requests for modifications shall be submitted and assessed in accordance with Article 6.7 of the Regulation.

Article 2.9
Communication

1. All communication to the FMC regarding this Programme Agreement shall take place in English and be directed to the Financial Mechanism Office (hereinafter referred to as the FMO), which represents the FMC towards the National Focal Point and the Programme Operator in relation to the implementation of the Programme.

2. To the extent that original documents are not available in the English language, the documents shall be accompanied by full and accurate translations in English. The National Focal Point shall bear the responsibility for the accuracy of the translation that it provides and the possible consequences that might arise from any inaccurate translations.

Article 2.10
Contact information

1. The contact information of the Programme Operator is as specified in this Programme Agreement.

2. The contact information for the FMC and the Financial Mechanism Office are:

Financial Mechanism Office

Att: Managing Director

EFTA House

Avenue des Arts, 19H

1000 Brussels

Telephone: +32 (0)2 286 1701

E-mail: fmo@efta.int

3. Changes of or corrections to the contact information referred to in this Article shall be given in writing without undue delay by the Parties to this Programme Agreement.

Article 2.11
Representations and warranties

1. This Programme Agreement and the awarding of the programme grant is based on information provided by, through, or on behalf of the National Focal Point to the FMC prior to the signing of this Programme Agreement.

2. The National Focal Point represents and warrants that the information provided by, through, or on behalf of the National Focal Point, in connection with the implementation or conclusion of this Programme Agreement are authentic, accurate and complete.

Chapter 3
Projects

Article 3.1
Selection of projects and award of grants

1. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator selects projects in accordance with Chapter 7 of the Regulation and this Programme Agreement.

2. Eligibility of Project Promoters and project partners is stipulated in Article 7.2 of the Regulation and, in accordance with paragraph 4 thereof, subject only to the limitations stipulated in this Programme Agreement.

3. Pre-defined projects shall be outlined in this Programme Agreement.

4. The National Focal Point shall take proactive steps to ensure that the Programme Operator complies fully with Article 7.5.2 of the Regulation.

Article 3.2
Project contract

1. For each approved project a project contract shall be concluded between the Programme Operator and the Project Promoter.

2. In cases where a project contract cannot, due to provisions in the national legislation, be made between the Programme Operator and the Project Promoter, the Beneficiary State may instead issue a legislative or administrative act of similar effect and content.

3. The content and form or the project contract shall comply with Article 7.9 of the Regulation.

4. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the obligations of the Project Promoter under the project contract are valid and enforceable under the applicable law of the Beneficiary State.

Article 3.3
Project partners and partnership agreements

1. A project may be implemented in a partnership between the Project Promoter and project partners as defined in point (y) of Article 1.6 of the Regulation. If a project is implemented in such a partnership, the Project Promoter shall sign a partnership agreement with the project partners with the content and in the form stipulated in Article 7.10 of the Regulation.

2. If one of the parties to the agreement is an entity from the Donor States, the partnership agreement

shall be in English and shall be based on a template provided by the FMC.

3. The eligibility of expenditures declared by a project partner is subject to the same rules as would apply if the expenditures were declared by the Project Promoter.

4. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator verifies that the partnership agreement complies with this Article. A draft partnership agreement or letter of intent shall be submitted to the Programme Operator before the signing of the project contract.

Chapter 4
Finance

Article 4.1
Eligible expenditures

1. Without prejudice to Article 8.9 of the Regulation, eligible expenditures of this Programme are:

a) management costs of the Programme Operator in accordance with the detailed budget in the financial plan;

b) payments to projects within this Programme in accordance with the Regulation, this Programme Agreement and the project contract; and

c) payments to activities funded by the bilateral funds allocated to the programme.

2. Expenditures of Project Promoters and project partners are eligible provided that they are in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 8 of the Regulation and any further provisions contained in this Programme Agreement.

3. The first date of eligibility of expenditures in projects shall be set in the project contract in accordance with Article 8.14 of the Regulation. The first date of eligibility of any pre-defined project shall be no earlier than the date of entry into force of the Programme Agreement.

4. The maximum eligible costs of the categories referred to in paragraph 1 are set in this Programme Agreement. Programme specific rules on the eligibility of expenditure set in this Programme Agreement shall be complied with.

Article 4.2
Proof of expenditure

Costs incurred by Programme Operators, Project Promoters and project partners shall be supported by documentary evidence as required in Article 8.12 of the Regulation.

Article 4.3
Proof of conditions fulfilled for simplified cost options

Costs of the Programme Operators, Project Promoters and project partners that are covered by simplified cost options shall be supported by the proof of conditions fulfilled in accordance with Article 8.13 of the Regulation.

Article 4.4
Payments

1. Payments to the Programme shall be made when all relevant conditions for payments stipulated in this Programme Agreement and the Regulation have been fulfilled.

2. Payments to the Programme shall take the form of an advance payment, interim payments and payment of the final balance and shall be made in accordance with Articles 9.2, 9.3 and 9.5 of the Regulation.

3. Payments of the project grant to the Project Promoters may take the form of advance payments, interim payments and payments of the final balance.

4. The National Focal Point shall ensure that payments are transferred in accordance with Article 9.1.2 of the Regulation.

5. Chapter 9 of the Regulation shall apply to all aspects related to payments, including currency exchange rules and handling of interests on bank accounts.

Article 4.5
Transparency and availability of documents

The National Focal Point shall ensure an audit trail for financial contributions from the EEA Financial Mechanism 2021-2028 to the Programme in accordance with Article 9.8 of the Regulation.

Article 4.6
Irregularities, suspension and reimbursements

The FMC has the right to make use of the remedies provided in the Regulation, in particular Chapter 13 thereof. The National Focal Point has a duty to take all necessary measures to ensure that the provisions in Chapter 12 and 13 of the Regulation regarding irregularities, suspension of payments, financial corrections and reimbursement are complied with.

Chapter 5
Final provisions

Article 5.1
Dispute settlement

1. The Parties waive their rights to bring any dispute related to the Programme Agreement before any

national or international court and agree to settle such a dispute in an amicable manner.

2. If a demand for reimbursement to the FMC is not complied with by the Beneficiary State, or a dispute related to a demand for reimbursement arises that cannot be solved in accordance with paragraph 1, the Parties may bring the dispute before Oslo Tingrett.

Article 5.2
Termination

1. The FMC may, after consultation with the National Focal Point, terminate this Programme Agreement if:

a) a general suspension decision according to Article 13.6 of the Regulation or a decision to suspend payments according to point (h) of Article 13.1.1 of the Regulation has not been lifted within 6 months of such a decision;

b) a suspension of payments according to Article 13.1 of the Regulation, other than under point (h) of Article 13.1.1, has not been lifted within one year of such a decision;

c) a request for reimbursement according to Article 13.2 of the Regulation has not been complied with within one year from such a decision;

d) the Programme Operator becomes bankrupt, is deemed to be insolvent, or declares that it does not have the financial capacity to continue with the implementation of the Programme; or

e) the Programme Operator has, in the opinion of the FMC, been engaged in corruption, fraud or similar activities or has not taken the appropriate measures to detect or prevent such activities or, if they have occurred, nullify their effects.

2. This Programme Agreement can be terminated by mutual agreement between the Parties.

3. Termination does not affect the right of the Parties to make use of the dispute settlement mechanism referred to in Article 5.1 or the right of the FMC to make use of the remedies provided in Chapter 13 of the Regulation.

Article 5.3
Waiver of responsibility

1. Any appraisal of the Programme undertaken before or after its approval by the FMC, does not in any way diminish the responsibility of the National Focal Point and the Programme Operator to verify and confirm the correctness of the documents and information forming the basis of the Programme Agreement.

2. Nothing contained in the Programme Agreement shall be construed as imposing upon the FMC or the FMO any responsibility of any kind for the supervision, execution, completion, or operation of the Programme or its projects.

3. The FMC does not assume any risk or responsibility whatsoever for any damages, injuries, or other possible adverse effects caused by the Programme or its projects including, but not limited to inconsistencies in the planning of the Programme or its projects, other project(s) that might affect it or that it might affect, or public discontent. It is the full and sole responsibility of the National Focal Point and the Programme Operator to satisfactorily address such issues.

4. Neither the National Focal Point, the Programme Operator, entities involved in the implementation of projects, nor any other party shall have recourse to the FMC for further financial support or assistance to the Programme in whatsoever form over and above what has been provided for in the Programme Agreement.

5. Neither the European Free Trade Association, its Secretariat, including the FMO, its officials or employees, nor the FMC, its members or alternate members, nor the EFTA States, can be held liable for any damages or injuries of whatever nature sustained by the National Focal Point or the Beneficiary State, the Programme Operator, Project Promoters or any other third person, in connection, be it direct or indirect, with this Programme Agreement.

6. Nothing in this Programme Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of diplomatic immunities and privileges awarded to the European Free Trade Association, its assets, officials or employees.

Article 5.4
Entry into force and duration

1. This Programme Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the last signature of the Parties.

2. This Programme Agreement shall remain in force until five years have elapsed after the date of the acceptance of the Final Programme Report.

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This programme agreement is drawn up in two originals in the English language.

For the Donors	For the National Focal Point
Signed in Tallinn on 26/05/2026	Signed in Tallinn on 26/05/2026
.....	.....
Harald Aspelund	Urmo Merila
Ambassador of Iceland	Head of National Focal Point

Annex I to the Programme Agreement

Roles	
Programme Operator:	Ministry of Social Affairs - Estonia
Donor Programme Partner:	Norwegian Directorate of Health (HDIR)
IPO:	-
Other Programme Partner(s):	Ministry of Justice and Digital Affairs of Estonia

Indicator	Disaggregation	Unit of measurement	Data source	Baseline	Planned Target[1]
PA08 objective: More resilient and inclusive public health systems.					
Outcome 1: Enhanced prevention of risk-behaviours					
Number of policy recommendations introduced as a result of prevention system analysis		Cumulative number	Policy report	0	5
Number of interventions ready to be evaluated for higher level of evidence		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	5
Level of prevention-related competencies among policymakers and professionals in the field		Scale 1-5	Project promoter records	2.75[2]	4
Percent increase in teachers' awareness of DGBV prevention and responses		Percentage	Study report	N/A	5 %[3]
Percent increase in surveyed police and rescue workers' attitudes concerning DGBV prevention and responses		Percentage	Study report	N/A	5 %[4]
Output 1.1: Increased capacities for evidence-based prevention interventions at national and local level					
Prevention implementation model created and indicators to measure the progress and effectiveness of changes available		Binary	Project promoter records	No	Yes
Central online knowledge hub for prevention policymakers and implementers developed		Binary	Web solution accessible online	No	Yes

[1] Planned targets included in the above table represent the level of ambition at the time of Programme Agreement conclusion or following major modifications of the Programme. These targets shall not be used to measure the level of success of the programme. Actual targets following project contracting shall be reported on annually in the Country Reports and the Final Programme Report.

[2] Source: https://tai.ee/sites/default/files/2025-03/euroopa_ennetuse_oppekava_eupc_koolituse_hindamistulemused_2024_1.pdf

[3] 5% increase of awareness targeted

[4] 5% increase of awareness targeted

Number of practitioners and policy makers trained on prevention		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	472[5]	700
Prevention micro degree programme developed		Binary	Project promoter records	No	Yes
Number of specialists trained within a pilot programme with micro degree in prevention		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	25
Number of implemented interventions aimed at supporting the wellbeing of vulnerable youth		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	3
Survey conducted to measure the level of teachers' awareness on DGBV		Binary	Survey report	No	Yes
Effectiveness of targeted domestic violence interventions has been evaluated		Binary	Project promotor records	No	Yes
Victim survey conducted		Binary	Survey report	No	Yes
Evaluation of sexual assault centres system carried out		Binary	Evaluation report	No	Yes
Number of specialists trained to apply sexual consent principles		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	200
PA10 objective: Prevention and combatting of domestic and gender-based violence in line with international and European human rights standards.					
Outcome 2: Enhanced evidence to improve responses to domestic and gender-based violence					
Number of interventions ready to be evaluated for higher level of evidence		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	2
Output 2.1: Increased early detection and reporting of DGBV cases					
Number of adapted interventions preventing DGBV, incl. in educational settings		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	3
PA08 objective: More resilient and inclusive public health systems.					
Outcome 3: Improved integration of patient-centred care					
Number of personal digital care plans prepared as a result o f multidisciplinary teamwork		Cumulative number	Health Insurance Fund statistics	0	100
Level of users reporting satisfaction with the integrated care digital platform		Scale 1-5, The Programme will use a 1-6 scale instead of the standard FMO 1-5 scale. Data is therefore expected to be rescaled before being entered in GrACE	Feedback study report	N/A	3.4[6]

[5] Baseline in October 2025: 472 trained specialists

[6] The original target (4/6) was converted from the 1-6 scale to the FMO internal system using linear rescaling.

Number of formalised collaboration networks established a nd active		Cumulative number	Networking agreements (strategies in place)	0	15
Output 3.1: Integrated primary care networks launched					
Number of approved county level integrated care strategic plans		Cumulative number	Approved integrated care strategic plans	0	15
Number of local mentors trained to support integrated care		Cumulative number	Participation sheets	0	15
Output 3.2: Integrated personal digital health and social care plan with a supporting teamwork platform created					
Digital platform created and piloted		Binary	Piloting report	No	Yes
Number of personal care plans tested by multidisciplinary teams during the pilot		Cumulative number	Piloting report	0	5
PA08 objective: More resilient and inclusive public health systems.					
Outcome 4: Genomic Medicine integrated into public health and clinical practice					
Pharmacogenetic decision support available for the primary care specialists in the Health Information System		Binary	Health Information System	No	Yes
Feedback from new services based on genetic data		Scale 1-5	Patient-reported experience feedback questionnaire	N/A	3
Output 4.1: New solutions in personalised and precision medicine, pharmacogenetics, and rapid genome sequencing for children in intensive care applied					
Number of precision oncology cases using genomic data		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	120
Number of cases of ICU paediatric cases making use of rapid genome sequencing		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	250
Number of healthcare professionals trained in the application of personalised and precision medicine		Cumulative number	Project promoter records	0	50
Output 4.2: Framework and guidelines for better use of genomic data developed					
Analysis and framework for scalability, functionalities, storage and use of genetic data in Estonian Health information system completed		Binary	Analysis report	No	Yes
Clinical guidelines with the cost-effectiveness analysis for the new services based on genetic data developed		Binary	Service guidelines	No	Yes
Bilateral Outcome: Enhanced collaboration between beneficiary and donor state entities involved in the programme					
Level of relevance of the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of effectiveness of the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of efficiency of the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of added value of the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of sustainability of the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of involvement of the project partner in the project		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4

Level of trust between partners		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4
Level of overall satisfaction with the partnership		Scale 1-5	FMO survey	N/A	4

Conditions

General

1. The Programme Operator shall ensure a functional separation within the Ministry of Social Affairs of the tasks of the Programme Operator on one hand, and the role of Project Promoter or project partner for the pre-defined projects no. 1 and 2 (as identified in section 3 of Annex II to this Agreement) on the other hand. The Audit Authority shall provide the National Focal Point with a positive assessment of a sufficient functional separation within one year from the entry into force of this Agreement.

2. The maximum level of funding for investment in infrastructure and equipment (hard measures) is set at 26% of the total eligible expenditure of the Programme.

3. The National Focal Point shall ensure that the Programme Operator ensures that Project Promoters:

- Keep any buildings purchased, constructed, renovated or reconstructed under the project in their ownership for a period of at least 5 years following the completion of the project and continue to use such buildings for the benefit of the overall objectives of the project for the same period;
- Keep any buildings purchased, constructed, renovated or reconstructed under the project properly insured against losses such as fire, theft and other normally insurable incidents both during project implementation and for at least 5 years following the completion of the project; and
- Set aside appropriate resources for the maintenance of any buildings purchased, constructed, renovated or reconstructed under the project for at least 5 years following the completion of the project. The specific means for implementation of this obligation shall be specified in the project contract.

Pre-eligibility

4. No costs shall be eligible under pre-defined projects before a detailed budget for the respective pre-defined project, including the role and contribution of any Donor project partner(s), has been agreed with the Donor project partner(s) and submitted by the PO and the FMC has confirmed the grant to the project as described in Annex II to this Programme Agreement.

Pre-payment

Not applicable

Pre-completion

Not applicable

Post-completion

Not applicable

Eligibility of costs - period	**First date**	**Final date**
Eligibility of costs	28/05/2025	30/04/2032
Grant rate and co-financing		
Programme eligible expenditure (€)		€ 14,414,411.77
Programme grant rate (%)		85.00 %

Maximum amount of Programme grant - EEA Financial Mechanism (€)	€ 12,265,000.00
Maximum amount of Programme grant - Norwegian Financial Mechanism (€)	-
Maximum amount of Programme grant - Total (€)	€ 12,265,000.00

PA	Budget Heading	EEA Grants	Total grant	Programme grant rate	Programme co-financing	Programme eligible expenditure	Grant advance payment
PM	Programme management	€ 1,112,657.00	€ 1,112,657.00	85.00 %	€ 196,351.24	€ 1,309,008.24	n/a
PA08	Outcome 1 (EEA Grants)	€ 5,295,343.00	€ 5,295,343.00	85.00 %	€ 934,472.29	€ 6,229,815.29	n/a
PA10	Outcome 2 (EEA Grants)	€ 912,000.00	€ 912,000.00	85.00 %	€ 160,941.18	€ 1,072,941.18	n/a
PA08	Outcome 3 (EEA Grants)	€ 2,373,000.00	€ 2,373,000.00	85.00 %	€ 418,764.71	€ 2,791,764.71	n/a
PA08	Outcome 4 (EEA Grants)	€ 2,487,000.00	€ 2,487,000.00	85.00 %	€ 438,882.35	€ 2,925,882.35	n/a
BF	Bilateral funds at programme level	€ 85,000.00	€ 85,000.00	n/a[7]	n/a[8]	€ 85,000.00	n/a
Total[9]		**€ 12,265,000.00**	**€ 12,265,000.00**	**85.00 %**	**€ 2,149,411.77**	**€ 14,414,411.77**	**€ 0.00**

Retention of management costs	
Retention of management costs - Percentage of the management costs	10.00 %
Retention of management costs - Planned Euro value	€ 130,900.82

[7] Grant amount of bilateral funds at programme level is not relevant for the calculation of programme grant rate

[8] Grant amount of bilateral funds at programme level is not relevant for the calculation of programme co-financing

[9] The MoU was signed with rounded figures according to standard financial rules for rounding. The figures in the budget tables in Annex I to this Programme Agreement include the two decimals behind the rounded figures in the MoU.

Public Health

Operational rules (Annex II)

1. Programme summary

This Annex sets out the operational rules for the Programme. The Programme Agreement is based on the MoU, the Concept Note, and comments made by the FMC. Commitments, statements and guarantees, explicit as well as implicit, made in the Concept Note, are binding for the National Focal Point and the Programme Operator unless otherwise explicitly stipulated in the Annexes to this Programme Agreement.

The Programme Operator is the Ministry of Social Affairs of Estonia. Certain tasks of the Programme Operator may be delegated to the Grants Implementing Department of the State Shared Service Centre, however this does not in any way reduce or restrict the responsibility of the Programme Operator. The Norwegian Directorate of Health shall act as Donor Programme Partner. The Ministry of Justice and Digital Affairs of Estonia shall act as Programme Partner.

The objective of the Programme "Public Health" is to improve people's well-being, strengthen resilience, and address the evolving health and social needs of the population of Estonia. The Programme contributes to this objective through four Outcomes, implemented through a combination of calls for proposals and pre-defined projects.

Outcome 1 "Enhanced prevention of risk behaviours" shall be implemented through one call for proposals and one pre-defined project. Pre-defined project 1 will strengthen Estonia's prevention system through evidence-based system analysis, capacity-building, professional training, and development of tools supporting cross-sector prevention practice. Prevention of domestic and gender-based violence (DGBV) in the pre-defined project will target capacity-building of specialists, particularly law-enforcement agencies (LEAs), on a consent-based principle in sexual violence. The project will also address changes in teacher's and law-enforcement attitudes toward DGBV prevention through user-informed research and the evaluation of existing services. These contributions will be reported at project level through the applicable DGBV policy marker. Call 1 shall support projects aimed at developing new interventions and strengthening the evidence base for prevention initiatives at both national and local levels, including universal, selective, and indicated prevention measures.

Outcome 2 "Enhanced evidence to improve responses to domestic and gender-based violence" shall be implemented through one call for proposals, call 2, which shall support projects aimed at improving early detection, prevention, and response to DGBV, while also supporting evaluation of the initiatives of targeted domestic violence. Projects may include activities such as supporting attitudinal change of related stakeholders, digital and relationship safety measures and response to cyber-violence. Efforts shall follow a victim-centred and gender-sensitive approach and may include tailored measures addressing the needs of people in vulnerable situations.

Outcome 3 "Improved integration of patient-centred care" shall be implemented through pre-defined project 2, which will establish and formalise county-level integrated health and social care networks, and develop secure digital tools enabling coordinated, person-centred service delivery. The project will include training and mentoring of local professionals and the development and piloting of a shared digital care-planning platform.

Outcome 4 "Genomic medicine integrated into public health and clinical practice" shall be implemented through pre-defined project 3, which will support the development of a framework for secure storage and reuse of genomic data, expand the clinical application of personalised and precision medicine (including rapid genome sequencing and precision oncology), and strengthen institutional capacity to ensure sustainable integration of genomic medicine into Estonia's healthcare system.

The promotion of the values and principles referred to in Article 1.3.1 of the Regulation shall guide programme implementation and be assessed at all stages.

2. Selection of projects

2.1 Calls and availability of funds (including number of calls, duration of calls, and estimated size):

Modality	**Available amount (€)**	**Project grant rate (%)**	**Minimum and maximum project grant amount (€)**	**Indicative launch date and duration of call**
Outcome 1				
Call 1	€ 2,156,874	100%	Max € 200,000	Indicative launch: Q1 2027 Duration: minimum 3 months
Outcome 2				
Call 2	€ 1,072,941	100%	Min € 50,000 – Max € 200,000	Indicative launch: Q1 2027 Duration: minimum 3 months

The project grant rate shall in all cases be set at a level that complies with the State Aid rules in force and takes into account any and all other forms of public support granted to projects. Any remaining costs of the project shall be provided or obtained by the Project Promoter and/or project partner(s).

2.2 Eligible applicants and project partners:

The rules on eligibility of Project Promoters and project partners set out in Article 7.2.1 and Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation apply. International organisations or bodies or agencies thereof may not be eligible as Project Promoters.

Modality	**Eligible applicants**	**Eligible partners**

Call 1	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Estonia	Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, as well as non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person either in the Donor States, Beneficiary States or a country outside the European Economic Area that has a common border with the respective Beneficiary State, or any international organisation or body or agency thereof, actively involved in, and effectively contributing to, the implementation of a project, are considered eligible project partners.
Call 2	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Estonia	Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, as well as non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person either in the Donor States, Beneficiary States or a country outside the European Economic Area that has a common border with the respective Beneficiary State, or any international organisation or body or agency thereof, actively involved in, and effectively contributing to, the implementation of a project, are considered eligible project partners.

2.3 Selection procedures:

Each application that meets the administrative and eligibility criteria shall be reviewed against the selection criteria by two impartial experts appointed by the Programme Operator. At least one of the experts shall be independent of the Programme Operator and the Selection Committee. Costs related to experts shall be covered from the management cost of the Programme Operator. The experts shall separately score the project according to the selection criteria published with the call for proposals. For the purposes of ranking the projects, the average of the scores awarded by the experts shall be used. In case the score of experts differ from each other more than 30%, a third impartial expert will review the application against the selection criteria. The two closest average scores to each other will be considered when establishing the ranking list of projects presented to the Selection Committee.

Project partnerships with entities from the Donor States, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, shall be encouraged and facilitated by the Programme Operator and Donor Programme Partner. Project applications with Donor project partners shall receive extra points in the selection.

3. Pre-defined projects

1) "Enhanced prevention of risk behaviours, including domestic and gender-based violence"

Project Promoter: Ministry of Justice and Digital Affairs of Estonia

Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Directorate of Health (HDIR) Norwegian Regional Centre for Child and Youth Mental Health and Child Welfare (RKBU)
Other project partner(s):	Ministry of Social Affairs Social Insurance Board National Institute for Health Development
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 4,072,941
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 4,072,941
Estimated duration:	48 months

The project shall strengthen Estonia's prevention system by improving public well-being, reducing risk behaviours, and enhancing the quality and effectiveness of evidence-based prevention at national and local levels. It will develop a comprehensive, data-driven prevention model, reinforce links between research, policy and practice, and build professional capacity to support sustainable, coordinated prevention efforts across sectors. The project shall also contribute to national efforts to address domestic and gender-based violence within its broader prevention framework through targeted capacity-building and data-informed activities and approximately € 1,000,000 shall be allocated to these activities.

Key activities include:

- Develop and agree on a national model for organising the prevention system, based on an analysis of roles and responsibilities across sectors and governance levels, and define the principles and policy recommendations for coordinating and financing prevention activities, including indicators to measure the progress and effectiveness on the system level.
- Strengthening the capacity of prevention professionals through advanced training, including delivery of European Prevention Curriculum (EUPC) courses and the development and implementation of a micro-degree programme in prevention.
- Creating a central online knowledge hub providing user-friendly access to information on prevention, including evidence-based interventions.
- Strengthening national efforts to prevent domestic and gender-based violence through capacity-building, attitude change, and evaluation and development of existing services.

2) "Creation of integrated health and social care networks and digital tools for provision of integrated patient-centered care"

Project Promoter:	Ministry of Social Affairs - Estonia
Other project partner(s):	Health and Welfare Information Systems Centre (TEHIK) Health Insurance Fund
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 2,791,765
Project grant rate:	100.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 2,791,765
Estimated duration:	48 months

The project shall build human capacity and strategic frameworks for integrated care by strengthening local capability to organise and deliver coordinated health and social services. It will support the establishment of county-level integrated care networks by training local mentors and facilitating the development of integrated care strategies. In parallel, the project will create a central digital platform and secure information system that enables multidisciplinary teamwork and integrated personal care plans for people with complex needs.

Key activities include:

- Procuring national and international experts to prepare and deliver training and mentoring for local professionals involved in building integrated care networks.
- Training and supporting local mentors who will guide counties in establishing integrated care organisations and developing county-specific integrated care strategies.
- Establishing county-level primary care networks through structured collaboration, stakeholder engagement, and formalisation of integrated care arrangements.
- Conducting analyses required for the development of digital tools, including business and concept analysis, technical specifications, system architecture, access-management needs and data-protection requirements.
- Creating a central digital platform and secure information system that enables integrated personal health and social care plans and supports multidisciplinary teamwork.
- Piloting the digital platform in selected counties to validate functionality, user experience and its suitability for coordinated service delivery.

3) "Genetic Medicine Programme for Estonia 2026-2031"

Project Promoter:	Tartu University Hospital
Donor project partner(s):	Norwegian Directorate of Health (HDIR) Oslo University Hospital
Other project partner(s):	Ministry of Social Affairs University of Tartu Health Insurance Fund
Total maximum eligible costs:	€ 3,442,214
Project grant rate:	85.00 %
Maximum project grant amount:	€ 2,925,882
Estimated duration:	59 months

The project shall support the integration of genomic medicine into Estonia’s public health and clinical practice by broadening population access to personalised medicine and strengthening the national framework for the secure and ethical use of genomic data. It will establish the technical, legal and organisational foundations needed for the long-term reuse of genomic information, expand the clinical application of genomics in areas such as rapid diagnosis, precision oncology and pharmacogenetics, and improve evidence-based decision-making in treatment and prevention across the healthcare system. The Ministry of Social Affairs shall take part in the activities of the project as a partner without receiving any funding from the project.

Key activities include:

- Establishing national guidelines for the secure storage, ethical reuse and long-term management of genomic data, including alignment with European Health Data Space requirements.
- Implementing rapid whole-genome sequencing for critically ill children in intensive care and piloting the use of genome sequencing to expand newborn screening.
- Enhancing precision oncology through the introduction of circulating tumour DNA (ctDNA) testing to support molecular characterisation and treatment monitoring.
- Developing and integrating a pharmacogenetic decision-support system into electronic health records, including the translation and dissemination of relevant treatment manuals.
- Conducting clinical and technical developments to broaden the application of genomic medicine services, including new models for diagnosis, prevention and personalised treatment.
- Facilitating cooperation between public and private stakeholders to support innovation, coordinated care pathways and the sustainable expansion of genomic medicine applications.

4. Bilateral relations

The Programme shall contribute to strengthening bilateral relations between Estonia and the Donor States through a variety of activities such as, *inter alia*, study visits, joint seminars and expert visits/consultations.

The use of the funds for bilateral relations allocated to the Programme shall be agreed by the Cooperation Committee. The Cooperation Committee shall consist of representatives of the Programme Operator and the Donor Programme Partner.

The Programme Operator and the Donor Programme Partner shall agree on the rules and procedures applicable to the Cooperation Committee.

5. Programme management and financial parameters

5.1 Special rules on eligibility of costs:

- The cost of purchase of real estate and land shall not be eligible.
- Programme management costs shall take the form of eligible expenditure actually incurred, except for indirect costs, for which a flat rate of 15% of eligible direct staff costs shall apply, in accordance with Article 8.5.1 (b) of the Regulation.

5.2 Programme administrative structures:

The Programme is operated by the Ministry of Social Affairs of Estonia. The Grants Implementing Department of the State Shared Service Centre will act as implementing agency and will be involved in

the selection process as well as take on tasks related to verification of payments, payments to Project Promoters and monitoring of the projects. The organisational structure of the Programme Operator shall ensure independence and functional separation of the division responsible for verification of incurred expenditure and approval of payments from other divisions responsible for the implementation of the Programme.

6. Miscellaneous

Not Applicable.